



Falls Church Community Resources

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Chi Beta Omega Chapter

www.chibetaomega-aka.com

The Falls Church chapter of America's first Greek-letter organization established by Black college women. AKA is celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2008. The Falls Church chapter, Chi Beta Omega, is seeking to become more involved in the community.

Contact: Alexia Ransom info@chibetaomega-aka.com

Partnership Opportunities: Sponsors annual Black History Trivia Competition for elementary students, February 24, 2008 at Falls Church Community Center. Members are available as mentors, career-day speakers, and other volunteer jobs within the community

Business in Education Partnership (BIE)

www.fccps.org

The Business in Education (BIE) Partnership is the bridge connecting Falls Church City Public Schools and the area business community.

Contact: Marybeth Connelly connellym@fccps.org

Partnership Opportunities: Works with all school employees and school-affiliated organizations to develop meaningful school-business partnerships.

Cherry Hill Farmhouse

www.fallschurchva.gov

Cherry Hill Farmhouse, with its adjoining barn and park, is a historic family farm managed by the Recreation & Parks Department.

Contact: Diane Morse dmorse@fallschurchva.gov

Partnership Opportunities: Hosts reenactments, concerts, readings, lectures, teas and field trips; Topics include simple machines, Falls Church Civil War history; will visit classrooms with primary source documents and artifacts related to Falls Church history. Field trips support VA SOLs Science 3.1, 3.2; History 3.7; English 3.1; History & Social Science VS1, VS7; Science 4.8; English 4.1, 4.2, 4.6, 5.1, 5.2, 5.6, 5.7, US1, US1.9. Cherry Hill also offers a variety of student volunteer opportunities.

Falls Church Arts (FCA)

www.fallschurcharts.org

Falls Church Arts is a nonprofit, community arts organization that promotes functional and fine art as well as the performing and visual arts. The mission of Falls Church Arts is to ensure that the arts are an essential part of the cultural environment of the city of Falls Church.

Contact: Michele Black fallshchurcharts@gmail.com

Partnership Opportunities: FCA can host student exhibitions of work, performances at FCA events like FIRSTFriday and the All-Member show; hosts events, such as poetry readings, that may be of interest to students and teachers. Has an artist discussion group in which students can participate; can provide judges for art contests, speakers for classes, artists for demonstrations and mentoring; will publicize school artistic events to member e-mail list or on website. Opportunities for student volunteers include performances at events, assistance with shows, website volunteer work.

Falls Church Chamber of Commerce (FCCC)

www.fallschurchchamber.org

The Falls Church Chamber of Commerce represents and promotes the life of the community as the voice for business.

Contact: Sally Cole sally@fallschurchchamber.org & Debbie Thompson debbie@fallschurchchamber.org

Partnership Opportunities: Works through the Business in Education Partnership to promote relationships between local businesses and Falls Church City Public Schools.

The partnership opportunities are not limited to those on this list. All organizations are willing to develop additional partnerships that will meet the needs of the schools. For further information, contact FCCPS BIE coordinator, Marybeth Connelly, connellym@fccps.org.

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Falls Church Department of Environmental Services

www.fallschurchva.gov

This city department provides expertise in recycling, waste management, Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

Contact: Kathy Allan kallan@fallschurchva.gov

Partnership Opportunities: The Department of Environmental Services runs the Operation Earthwatch program, and will help support outdoor classrooms. Environmental Programs Specialist, Kathy Allan, will give a talk, provide classroom resources or help arrange a field trip for any grade level. Chesapeake Bay Watershed Experience includes stream walks, watershed model demonstrations; Recycling and Waste Management Experience includes Recycling is Magic, The Five Rs, I-66 Transfer Station Field Trips; Waste Management Material Recovery Facility Field Trips. Students can also volunteer to help with environmental programs to receive service hours.

Falls Church Education Foundation (FCEF)

www.fcedf.org

The Falls Church Education Foundation's mission is to ensure that our students are prepared to effectively meet the challenges of the 21st century. The Foundation provides all friends of the Falls Church City Public Schools with a means to contribute a legacy of support for the system's educational excellence.

Contact: Donna Englander denglander@fcedf.org

Partnership Opportunities: Falls Church City Public School's teachers and administrators are eligible for grant funding. While collaboration is encouraged, applicants may apply individually or as team members. Through the generous contributions of individuals, community organizations, local businesses and families, a wide range of scholarships is available to members of the GMHS graduating class.

Falls Church Housing Corp (FCHC)

<http://www.handhousing.org/fallschurchhousing/>

Falls Church Housing Corporation is the non-profit, community-based provider of affordable housing in greater Falls Church, Virginia. It is a membership organization of experienced volunteers and a full-time professional staff.

Contact: Mary Lynn Hickey

Partnership Opportunities: The Winter Hill Clubhouse meeting space is offered free of charge to local non-profits and community groups pending availability. Ongoing volunteer opportunities to assist with resident based activities are also available. In addition, the FCHC proposes to develop 172 units of affordable housing across the street from the City Center. Approximately half of the units in this new building will be offered to "workforce employees", including FCCPS employees, who will be eligible for subsidized rent apartments.

Falls Church Victorian Society (FCVS)

Promotes the Victorian heritage of the City of Falls Church.

Contact: Midge Wang vicsofc@hotmail.com

Partnership Opportunities: Works with MEH PTA to present Promenade Classes for students; recently published a free city map: Discover a Victorian Town; and a book, Victorian Falls Church. VSFC holds a variety of re-enactments and demonstrations designed to promote interest in Victorian culture including annual Arbor Day festivities in Frady Park, Civil War Thanksgiving celebration, Victorian Literary evenings, Civil War Days in conjunction with Cherry Hill Farmhouse in May. Members dress in Victorian-style clothing and can provide programs, re-enactments, readings or discussions on topics like Falls Church history; how people lived, worked and played; fashion and etiquette; art, architecture and literature; and a myriad of other topics relating to the Victorian era.

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FIRSTFriday

www.firstfridayoffallschurch.com

Falls Church's FIRSTFriday, held the first Friday of each month, creates business and social synergy in the city. The event attracts people to view local artwork, learn about the city's history, and shop and dine in downtown Falls Church.

Contact: Tom Gittins tom@firstfridayfc.org

Partnership Opportunities: Hosts student performances and art shows. Offers community gathering around the arts.

Homestretch

www.homestretch.org

Homestretch's mission is to empower homeless families with children under age 18 in Northern Virginia to return to stable housing and self-sufficiency by giving them the skills, knowledge, and hope they need to become productive participants in the community.

Contact: Gina Cocomello gcocomello@homestretch-inc.org

Partnership Opportunities: Homestretch employees are available to make presentations about homelessness to students and to share career information. Volunteer opportunities for students include conducting a drive for donations to support families - children's items, ESOL materials, gift cards, linens, kitchen items, cleaning supplies. Volunteers can also help sort donated items that are delivered to families. A group of students can do a "kitchen sort" or a "linen sort", assembling boxes of these items for families to use.

Kokolopori-Falls Church Sister City Partnership

www.kokolopori-partnership.org

The mission of the Kokolopori-Falls Church Sister City Partnership is to promote understanding, friendship and cooperation between citizens in two communities with a common interest in sustainable community development and rainforest and wildlife conservation. Kokolopori is an indigenous Congolese community which manages a 1,200 square mile forest reserve in the heart of the Central African rainforest. The sister city partnership is a program of the international nonprofit, the Bonobo Conservation Initiative.

Contact: Maryll Kleibrink info@kokolopori-partnership.org

Partnership Opportunities: Holds annual student art contest (currently accepting entries); coordinates a student pen pal program. Guest speakers will come to schools or classes to talk about the Congo: people, land and resources. Community service opportunities are also available.

Lions Club of Falls Church

www.fallschurchlions.org

The Lions Club of Falls Church has been actively involved in service to the Falls Church community since 1940. The club provides hearing and vision screening to local residents and supports the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center. The club provides new eyeglasses and hearing aids to local residents who may not otherwise afford them. The club provides the Lions Donald Frady scholarship each year to a graduating GMHS student who has demonstrated outstanding service to our community. The club, also, conducts a Bland Scholarship juried competition every February for local student musicians.

Contact: Steve Belling, President sbelling@cavtel.net & Barry Buschow, Community Resource Coordinator bbuschow@verizon.net

Partnership Opportunities: Student volunteer groups can clean and sort glasses at the Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center, assist vision and hearing screening at the Tinner Hill Festival, Memorial Day Parade, or Fall Festival, participate in Glory's/Happy Hats at TJES, help at the annual Falls Church Lions Charity Golf Tournament. Lions Club members can facilitate a school visit from a leader dog.

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Mary Riley Styles Public Library

<http://www.falls-church.lib.va.us/>

Provides a wealth of resources: public computing, wireless internet access, children's and adult programs, ongoing book sale, in addition to a wealth of reading and research materials

Contact: Julie Ramsay ramsay@falls-church.lib.va.us

Partnership Opportunities: Will host field trips for classes and host art shows; runs annual children's summer reading program, as well as book groups throughout the year; Will work with teachers to gather materials on any topic. Volunteer opportunities for students are also available.

Relay For Life

www.fallschurchrelay.org

At events in 4,800 communities nationwide, teams of families, friends and coworkers join together to CELEBRATE the lives of those who have battled cancer, REMEMBER those lost and FIGHT BACK against a disease that takes too much.

Contact: Katie Clinton clintonk@fccps.org; katieclinton@verizon.net

Partnership Opportunities: School employees, students, and families can form teams and participate in Relay for Life, May 31 - June 1, 2008.

Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation

www.tinnerhill.org

Tinner Hill Heritage Foundation works to honor the work of African-Americans who risked their lives and livelihoods to fight racial segregation and established the first rural branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (N.A.A.C.P.). It also promotes African-American history, culture & self-help traditions

Contact: Nikki Graves nikkigraves77@yahoo.com

Partnership Opportunities: Sponsors annual Black History Month Celebration and Celebrity Basketball Game, on Feb. 29, 2008; Organizes Tinner Hill Festival, in June each year; Launching the Mary Ellen Henderson traveling exhibit in February 2008.

Village Preservation and Improvement Society (VPIS)

www.vpis.org

The Village Preservation and Improvement Society, founded in 1885, is an active nonprofit citizen organization in the City of Falls Church. The Society works to improve our natural and built environment, preserve historic landmarks and open space; and sponsor cultural activities (e.g. Summer Concerts at Cherry Hill Park) VPIS also provides grants for projects and programs in the community and at the schools (e.g. Operation Earthwatch, landscaping at schools, George Mason Solar Project, and recycling programs at the schools). In 2007, VPIS provided over \$15,000 for school projects.

Contact: Jeff Peterson pjppijp@hotmail.com & Mary Soule mjsoule@jeredith.com

Partnership Opportunities: VPIS is interested in supporting projects at the schools related to the Society mission and welcomes student involvement in activities such as the Neighborhood Tree Program tree plantings, support for the VIPS Booth at the Saturday morning Farmer's Market, and help in running the annual Attic Treasures Sale in early May.

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